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GERMANY

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Thousands Hunger in a Land of Plenty

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Committee for International
Workers' Aid
Chicago

A Defeated Working Class of Germany is a Defeated Working Class of the World



After Getting a Hand Out at the Soup Kitchen, the Unemployed
"Flop" here for the Night



Three Generations of German Workers Receiving a "Hand Out"

Help German Workers To Help Themselves

Germany's Children

RUSSIA AND GERMANY

From the British Bureau for Ruhr Information Bulletin

Dr. W. A. Horsley Gantt, who was a year in Russia with the American Relief Administration, and for the last six months has been investigating health conditions in Germany and other European countries, says:

The contrast between the health conditions in Germany and Russia is that Russia is just getting over her crisis while Germany has not reached hers. The difference in the mental outlook of the people is the keynote to a large amount of the trouble in Germany. The brightest ray in all Russia's darkness is the growing optimism of the mass of the people, and it is this intangible argument, much more than any mathematical data, that leads us to believe that Russia will soon emerge from her difficulties.

According to the conditions existing at present in Germany, we may expect to see a steady fall in the birth rate and a rise in the death rate for at least one or two years.

Children in a Terrible Condition

I went into a half-dozen children's hospitals in Cologne and Dusseldorf. Three-fourths of the children were sick, not from any common child diseases but from nutritional diseases such as rickets. The wizened, expressionless faces, narrow chests, covered with skin so flabby that it folded over their bones like a cloak, their deformed and twisted bodies, often too apathetic, and too weak to cry, were characteristics present in nearly every child.

In one hospital in which there were 115 children, I saw every child, and had their weights and ages recorded. The average age was three years and one month, but the average weight was that of a child twelve months old.

It is estimated that rickets has increased eight fold in Germany since 1916.



STATISTICS

Frau Marie Steck made a report on January 10, 1924, from which the following table was extracted. This data is based on information gathered from seventy-seven schools:

District	Number of Children	Seriously Underfed	Insufficient Body-linen	Insufficient Clothing
Northern	4,301	1,886	709	270
North-Eastern	600	94	51	37
North-Western	3,358	869	482	271
Southern	5,112	1,081	862	289
South-Eastern	1,671	387	198	44
South-Western	800	240	127	63
Eastern	9,836	2,839	1,656	590
Western	9,353	3,406	1,619	800
Centre	11,556	5,081	1,497	583
Total	46,587	15,883	7,201	2,949

Statistics gathered from the Unemployment Bureau of Berlin, the Town Hall and the Provincial Hall of Breslau, Jan. 17, 1924, show the following conditions of the children:

Out of 230,377 Children in Silesia
30,000 go daily to school without breakfast,
9,212 have no dinner,
68,787 have only one pair of shoes,
11,500 stay away from school for lack of clothing,
4,600 stay away from school for lack of food,
4,600 fainted in school for lack of nourishment during November.

A CRY OF DESPAIR

The Minister of Public Health made the following statement:

"We stand before the shocking fact that the health of our own posterity, which constitutes our chief future hope for the rebuilding of our Fatherland, has been hopelessly shattered."

BABIES FED ON FLOUR

Prof. Dr. Czerny, Director of the University Clinic in Berlin, says: "The child clinics of Berlin are being overcrowded with cases of serious tuberculosis which, formerly rarely was found among children. Frequently babies are brought to us in a really starving condition. They are being fed on flour only."

The International Federation of Trade Unions states that at the end of October, 1923, the clothing workers' union of Germany reported as follows:

Unemployed	Employed
51.7 pct. men	11.9 pct. men
22.9 pct. women	17.3 pct. women

The Dictatorship of Hunger

WHY HELP?

In raising funds to help German workers we have been confronted with two points of views from those who refuse to help:

1. "If the German workers are starving, why don't they make a revolution and get the kind of government which will take care of them?"

2. "The Germans killed innocent children and tortured women. Let them know how it feels to have their women and children suffer."

and we reply, pointing out that these very workers are the ones who opposed the war and that hunger has reduced them to a state where they are no longer able to decide their own destiny.

The following facts talk more graphically than any phrases:

WORKING WOMEN

According to official German statistics gathered by the International Arbeiter Hilfs Komite, an unemployed working woman received a state allowance of 48 gold pfenigs daily, or 336 weekly. Based on a low standard of living, it cost an unmarried woman to sustain herself, as follows:

Weekly Food Budget

41,800 grams of bread.....	64 gold pf.
1 lb. margarine	70 gold pf.
14 lbs. of potatoes.....	49 gold pf.
2 lbs. strips of dough..	80 gold pf.
¼ lb. malt coffee.....	10 gold pf.

Total.....273 gold pf.

leaving her 63 pfenigs weekly to cover cost of clothing, room rent, light, heat and medicinal necessities.

If the unemployed woman was obliged to live by herself, she needed:

100 gold pf. a week for room rent
105 gold pf. a week for gas (light)
115 gold pf. a week for kindling and kerosene

320 gold pf. total—not including other necessities such as soap, clothing, carfares in looking for work, etc.

Conclusion: Based on a low standard of living, a working woman needed a minimum of 593 gold pfenigs weekly. She received 336. Which of the necessities can she give up?

COMPARE THESE FIGURES

According to the Division of Statistics, British Ministry of Labor, a skillful machinist must work for the same amount of nourishment:

2	Hours in the United States
3 ¼	Hours in Great Britain
6	Hours in France
7 ¼	Hours in Germany

which means that the German must work more than three times as long as the American for the same pay.

Due to this cheap labor, German Big Business is able to underbid America and win in the world market.

Figures recently gathered by the U. S. Dept. of Commerce show that Belgian and Luxemburg steel mills are selling structural shapes to the U. S. at about ten dollars under American prices, in spite of a duty of \$3 per ton.

It is asserted that Bethlehem Steel representatives therefore went to Germany recently to make arrangements for importing German steel in order to take advantage of the low cost of German labor.

This means that cheap German labor will throw American steel workers out of employment.

German workers are compelled by the Dictatorship of Hunger to meekly accept the terms that Big Business dictates. As long as German workers are kept in this state, just so long can German Big Business underbid other countries.

American Big Business can compete with Germany in the world market only by reducing the American standard of wages to the level of the German worker.

The low cost of German labor is a menace to labor the world over.

Only the German workers can change these conditions. As long as they hunger they cannot resist the merciless exploitation forced upon them. *Help them help themselves* and you will help reduce the menace to the workers of the world.

A defeated German Working Class Means a Defeated Working Class of the world—and therefore of America.



In the Day Nursery SOLIDARITAT maintained in Berlin by the International Arbeiter Hilfs Komite

Gathered by the Inquiring Reporter

SOME MORE FACTS

LES MISERABLES

An official report from Munich states that the miserable conditions under which the children grow up cause retarded growth and physical development. Fifteen-year-old children looked like nine and ten years old. One-sixth of all pupils in the city of Dresden are sick as a result of hunger.

The cause for this terrible misery is on the one hand, extensive unemployment. On the other hand, the prices of meat have reached five times the amount of pre-war prices. While the wages have gone down to from ten to fifty per cent of pre-war wages, the hours of work have increased.

It is reported that the slaughtering of dogs for food consumption has become a custom in the starving industrial sections, while the agricultural states and provinces know little about it.

In Saxony 2,760 dogs were killed. During the first six months of 1922, 4450 dogs were killed in all Germany. In 1923, 8643 dogs were killed.

A questionnaire sent to the schools of four cities revealed the following facts:

In Dresden 285 pupils out of 1200 suffered from curvature of the spine due to malnutrition.

In Nuremberg 6000 pupils out of 7850 were undernourished.

In Coblenz, 232 out of 1280 pupils suffered from rickets.

In Munich 78 per cent of the children suffered from tuberculosis.

The British Bureau of Ruhr Information Bulletin gives the following extract from a report by Miss Evelyn Sharpe, dated November 8th:

"The financial collapse of the sick insurance societies, to take only one example, has forced the hospitals here, as in Gelsenkirchen, to discharge all their insured patients, mostly tuberculosis cases. What must be the effect on the people's homes of this return of infectious people into their midst? Worse still is the similar discharge from the asylums of all lunatics who are not actually dangerous. I met one of these myself, who was beside himself with misery because he had no home to go to. If not actually dangerous, the poor man was unfit to be at large, or in any normal home, and I am told there are hundreds such now being discharged for lack of funds to maintain them in the institutions."



Not All Are Starving in Germany

Otto M., 16-years-old worker, is messenger employed by the Reichsbank, earns 2 mark 59 (about 50 cents) per week, from which eight people have to live—the mother, a sister with a hunchback unable to work, one boy 5 years old, suffering from an intestinal disease caused by lack of nourishment. His place of employment is three miles from his home. He has no bread all day, since January 10th the only warm meal he gets its out of the public kitchen. The Reichsbank withholds from every dollar he earns 25 cents to pay for the uniform.

Kate F., 17 years old. Excessive poverty at home caused continuous wrangling in the family. Finally she found a position but was discharged again. Unable to find other employment, she sleeps in a home for the homeless. Gets sick but cannot stay in the hospital—institution is overcrowded. Parents cannot take her in. Nothing to eat. Now she attempts to earn her living on the street.

Martha L., 15 years old. Mother dead, father blind. Girl has nobody to look after her. No income. No employment. Finally attempts to earn her living on the street.

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Freda M., 12 years old. The child collapsed in school for lack of nourishment. She was formerly the liveliest and happiest child in the class—is now a wreck, shivering even in overheated rooms.

Two sisters B. The only food they get is the breakfast served in school. Parents can provide nothing.

Lottie F., one of eleven children. Only father and one sister earn money; insufficient food and no clothing at all. Up to the first snow the child went barefoot to school.

Gerda G. has not had anything warm to eat for so long that her stomach refuses to take it now.

Kurt P., 16 years old. Unemployed for many weeks. Got a job as messenger in department store by mail, but when he presented himself they sent him away because his clothes were not presentable. In despair takes pair of boots along from the department store and is arrested and sent to prison.

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POSTAL TELEGRAPH - COMMERCIAL CABLES <small>CLIPPING IN WATER - 1 MIN.</small> TELEGRAM			

Willi Munzenberg and Matilda Wurm, Socialist members of the Reichstag, thank you for your help and ask for a continuation.

- 1—Petersburherplatz No. 3 Berlin.
2—Aachenerstrasse (Wilmerdorf).
3—"New York" Emdenerstrasse No. 23 Berlin.

ONE MEAL

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT I,

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

City _____ State _____

HAVE PAID TEN CENTS TO BUY A DINNER FOR
A GERMAN WORKER OR MEMBER OF HIS FAMILY

Committee for International Workers' Aid

Get a book of meal coupons (\$5.00) and sell them among your friends. Let your slogan be

BUY A COUPON
SELL A COUPON

Help German Workers To Help Themselves

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- 1—Become a German Relief Brigade Collector.
- 2—If you cannot collect, send us names and addresses of friends you know will contribute and state whether we may refer to you.
- 3—Join the German Relief Brigade Two Hundred. Either sign on a collector's blank or send in your individual pledge.
- 4—If you cannot make a pledge send in your contribution or collect from others on enclosed contribution list.
- 5—Send a Friendship Package of Clothing or canned food for
A German Child
A German Woman
A German Worker
Mark package who it is for.
- 6—Ask your organization to make a contribution or a pledge.
- 7—Run a small social for benefit of German children and take up a collection or charge admission.
Suggestions: Barn dance in your parlor, whist party, musicale, vecherinka, apron and tie dance.
- 8—Share your weekly food budget with the German Children.
- 9—Buy a book of meal coupons (\$5) or any part of it, monthly.

Note: All packages to be sent to Committee for International Workers' Aid, 206 East Twelfth St., New York, N. Y.

Contributions can be made either to the National Office, 32 South Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill., or to your local.

If you do nothing else, fill in pledge blank.

All contributions are acknowledged monthly in our official organ, Soviet Russia Pictorial. It is cheaper than employing a large office staff to check up on lists sent out. If you contribute through a collector watch the magazine for acknowledgement of money received from him.

WE THANK YOU

PLEDGE

I, the undersigned, wishing to help feed the German workers out of their present lethargy into a fit condition to decide their own destiny, pledge \$.....monthly out of my food allowance toward the support of American Soup Kitchen No. 1. My pledge to run ... months.
Enclosed find \$.....for month of.....

Name.....

Address.....

City.....

Trade or Profession.....

A Defeated Working Class of Germany Is a Defeated Work- ing Class of the World



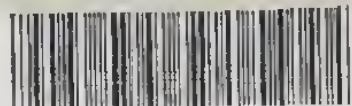
These Eat in the Soup Kitchen in Aachenstrasse, Berlin, Main-
tained by the Committee for International Workers' Aid



These Pick Their Food Out of the Garbage in Berlin Streets

**Friends of Soviet Russia and Workers
Germany**

**NATIONAL OFFICE
32 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill.
LOCAL OFFICE**



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